

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor :Yasushi SASAGAWA, et al.

Filed :Concurrently herewith

For :APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR....

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 30, 2004

Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

Prior to issuance of an Office Action, please amend the application as follows: